

DAVID BENNETT AC QC

Curriculum Vitae

Chambers 5 Wentworth
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Areas of practice

General Appellate Law

Constitutional Law

Alternative Dispute Resolution & Arbitration

Administrative Law

Banking, Securities and Insolvency

Commissions and Inquiries

Corporate and Commercial

Professional Conduct

Admissions

Solicitor March 1964

Barrister (NSW) May 1967

Subsequently, all other states, ACT and NT

Ad hoc admissions in Singapore and Malaysia

Member of the Honourable Society of King's Inn (Ireland)

Queen's Counsel (NSW) 1979

Subsequently, all other states, ACT and NT

Education

BA (Sydney) 1961

LL.B. (Sydney) 1964

LL.M. (Harvard) 1965

SJD (Harvard) 1970

Professional Career

Dr Bennett was the Solicitor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, appointed for a five-year term in August 1998 and for a second five-year term in August 2003. In August 2008, Dr Bennett returned to private practice at 5 Wentworth.

David Bennett AC QC was a member of 5 Wentworth between 1982 and 1998. Dr Bennett was appointed as a Queen's Counsel in 1979 and practised in the areas of appellate law generally, constitutional law, administrative law, revenue law, trade practices and competition law, among others. Dr Bennett served as president of the New South Wales Bar Association from November 1995 to November 1997 and president of the Australian Bar Association from November 1995 to February 1997.

He has twice led groups of barristers to teach advocacy to young lawyers in Bangladesh.

Dr Bennett was appointed as an Officer within the Order of Australia on 12 June 2000 for service to the law and the legal profession in the areas of administration, education, and practice. Dr Bennett was appointed a Companion in the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2008 for services to the law, particularly as Commonwealth Solicitor-General, through the provision of advice on matters of national interest and the international promotion of Australian legal services and education. He was also the recipient of a Centenary Medal in 2003.

In April 2014 David Bennett was named in Best Lawyers in Australia for Constitutional Law and Banking & Finance.

Memberships and Associations

President, Association of Lawyer Arbitrators and Mediators 1998

Council Member, International Commission of Jurists since 1989

Vice-President, South Pacific, International Academy Estate and Trust Law 1988-1996

President, Medico-Legal Society NSW 1988-1990

President, Australian Academy of Forensic Sciences 1999-2001

Member, International Legal Services Advisory Committee 2005-2011

Member, Takeovers Panel 2009-2012